Message Text

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CONFIDENTIAL STATE 091014

FOR AMBASSADOR STEVENSON FROM DICK MOOSE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, MI, US

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT BANDA'S PRIVATE VISIT TO THE U.S.

REF: STATE 83528

1. AFTER CAREFUL CONSIDERATION I HAVE DECIDED THAT AF CANNOT SUPPORT PRESIDENT BANDA'S REQUEST TO CALL ON THE PRESIDENT. THIS DECISION DOES NOT REFLECT ANY PERSONAL DISRESPECT FOR BANDA, OR ANY DOUBT IN MY MIND OF THE UTILITY OF SUCH A MEETING FOR THE SAKE OF CEMENTING THE RECENT POSITIVE TREND IN MALAWI'S OBSERVANCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS. RATHER IT IS A MATTER OF WHITE HOUSE PRIORITIES, AS WELL AS OURS IN AF, WHICH HAVE LED ME TO CONCLUDE THAT WE MUST USE OUR LIMITED ACCESS TO THE PRESIDENT'S TIME FOR OTHER, MORE PRESSING CONCERNS. CONFIDENTIAL

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2. WE WILL EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY OF A CALL ON THE VICE PRESIDENT, AS YOU HAD SUGGESTED, AND WILL REQUEST A CALL ON THE SECRETARY. AF/E WILL ADVISE FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS.

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

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Disposition Reason:
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